

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# GOOD NEWS

Volume 43, Issue 5

May, 2023



## Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

In a weekly email I have already thanked the many people who participated to make our Holy Week and Easter services such moving experiences. I simply echo that here. I hope you had a very blessed Easter!!

I have an update to share.

As Jean Johnson and I have reported several times, the Call Committee has been interviewing candidates in their process of identifying a possible senior pastor. We are happy to report that the committee has brought a recommendation to the Congregational Council. The Council now will meet with the candidate and discern whether to recommend him/her to the congregation. This part of the Council's work will take several weeks. Please remember that this is still a confidential process. All information about the candidate will remain confidential within the Council. If they decide to recommend the candidate to the congregation, you will receive a letter informing you that the candidate has been invited to come to Kountze to preach and meet the congregation. Then you will have the chance to learn about the candidate.

I thank the Call Committee for working hard for the past year to bring the process to this stage. Their work is largely complete, and now the Council will guide the process from here on. This is one of many exciting moments in the journey, but please be aware that, even if everything moves quickly and smoothly, this process could take another 12-15 weeks or more.

I have certainly enjoyed my time with you here at Kountze Memorial, and I appreciate the dedication of so many inspiring people in this congregation. Still, I have been yearning for time in my garden and more opportunities to work with several organizations I am part of in Lincoln. Our work together here over the next several months will take a bit different shape as you move closer to a decision whether to call a pastor. We will have chances to celebrate together later. Meanwhile, let's keep worshipping, growing, and serving together.  
Pastor Steve

## The Call Process Checklist

### Preparation Phase

- ✓ Leadership: Transition Minister: Pr. Stephen Griffith  
Assistant to the Bishop: Pr. Greg Berger
- ✓ Ministry Site Profile Completed, Approved, Posted online

### Call Process Phase

- ✓ Call Committee formed, installed, trained.
- ✓ Chair of Call Committee is Deacon Jean Johnson
- ✓ Call Committee prepared to receive candidates
- ✓ Call Committee receives names of candidate
- ✓ Call Committee interviews candidates (in process)
- ✓ **Call Committee recommends one candidate to Council**
  - Council Interviews candidate
  - Council recommends candidate to congregation
  - Congregation meets the candidate
  - Special Congregational Meeting is called
  - Letter of Call is extended to pastor-elect Pastor has 30 days to respond, then gives current congregation 30 days notice.

### **THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU** **Lenten Meal Volunteers:**

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped prepare, serve, and clean up during our Lenten journey. The organizing efforts by Marlys Duin and Jim Smejkal were superb!

### **Usher/Lectors/Communion Assistants/Altar Guild:**

Thank you to all of our Ushers, Lectors, Communion Assistants, and Altar Guild for all of your dedication and hard work throughout the year, but especially during Holy Week and Easter.

### **Easter Breakfast Volunteers:**

Thank you for Saturday prep crew, those who gave pastry donations, and the clean-up crew. We are especially thankful to Larry Camenzind, Zac Duminy, and Louis Flake for making it happen!

# WORSHIP with us...

## Worship Times

Holy Communion is offered weekly at all three weekend liturgies which use resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM; Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

The 9:00 AM liturgy is broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 13 and is also live-streamed on our website ([www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)). The Sunday bulletin is available on our website.

A brief, spoken Eucharist is offered on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 PM in the Rotunda.



## Worship with us on TV or via Internet Livestream



Our 9:00 AM worship service is broadcast live on television every Sunday on Cox Channel 13. You can also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to [www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org) and click on the Livestreaming link on the Worship Tab. We encourage you to worship with us via television or Internet as you are able.

## Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select.

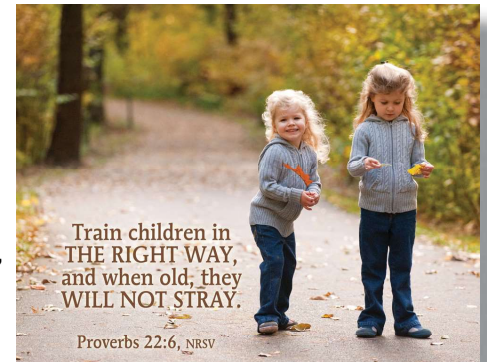
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and cost \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$210 per week.

You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast by signing up in the Narthex, calling the church office, going online to our giving page, or placing a check in the mail or offering plate marked "flowers, candle, or TV ministry. Please let us know if it is in honor/memory/celebration of someone. Thanks.



## Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available. We also have a room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.



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# GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- May 7: Fellowship
- May 14: New Member Reception
- May 21: Senior Recognition
- May 28: Farewell to Vicar Gretchen

## Ascension Day Liturgy

Thursday, May 18

6:30 PM

Held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
(113 N 18<sup>th</sup> St, Omaha)



Kountze Memorial will continue its tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord with

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. This year, Trinity will be hosting the liturgy. Bishop Scott Johnson will preach and Bishop Scott Barker will preside, with other clergy from Kountze Memorial and Trinity. Please mark your calendars for this festive Eucharist and invite a friend! Everyone is welcome.

## Christian Spirituality Retreats

May 21-May 30, 2023

May 30-June 8, 2023

Creighton University's globally recognized Christian Spirituality Program invites you to an individually directed, eight-day silent Ignatian retreat. Join an internationally diverse group of student directors and retreatants to relax, contemplate, and revel in God's abundant presence in your life.

Experience this unique opportunity at the beautiful Creighton University Retreat Center in Griswold, Iowa.

Directors will be Creighton CSP graduate students comprehensively trained in the evocative-contemplative approach of spiritual direction. Vicar Gretchen will be serving as one of the spiritual directors for the week

Retreat cost based on single occupancy, meals, and round-trip transportation between Creighton's campus and the Retreat Center: \$850 Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Contact Liz Stevinson at [csp@creighton.edu](mailto:csp@creighton.edu) or 402-280-2501 for more information or to register.



## Summer Confirmation

12:00 PM (see dates listed below)

Did Confirmation pass you by, or wanting to learn again?

A Summer Confirmation Program of 5 meetings will happen this summer for those in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above. This series of classes is being offered in the Fellowship Lounge at Noon for a light lunch and lessons on the following Wednesdays:

- The Ten Commandments – May 31
- The Creeds – June 14
- The Lord's Prayer – June 28
- Worship/Sacraments – July 19
- Discipleship – August 16

We will plan for Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, August 26. Please call the church office, or email [shari@kmlchurch.org](mailto:shari@kmlchurch.org) to sign up.

## Compline

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Hosts service of ancient chant and motets

Sunday, May 21, 7:30 PM

Please join us for a special evening featuring the sacred service of Compline. Amidst the beauty of the candlelit sanctuary, the Schola Cantorum from Lincoln's First Plymouth Church will share a short service of meditative chants and hymns.

The service of Compline has been sung for hundreds of years and offers singers and listeners a unique and special space for contemplation and communion with God.



## Pastoral Acts

(March 16 - April 15)

Baptisms:

- Edmund Theodor Brown, March 19, 2023
- Dietrich Alastair Brown, March 19, 2023
- Giada Marisol Valquier, April 2, 2023

Funerals:

- Patty Baker, March 23, 2023
- Bessie Swanson, April 8, 2023

First Communion: April 6, 2023

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Dietrich Alastair Brown | Hadley Gwenith Osborne |
| Edmund Theodor Brown    | Wyatt Abel Osborne     |
| James Edward Jordan     | Carson David Sedlak    |

# SERVE with us...

## Kountze Food Pantry



If you would like to donate items to the Pantry, please consider picking up some extra hygiene products, including feminine products, razors, and shaving cream. We never seem to have enough for everyone in need. Soap, shampoo, and deodorant are always appreciated, as well as

toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you, or someone you know would like to volunteer, please sign up at the link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>



The KMLC Nursery is open every Sunday from 8:45 AM until 12:00 PM as well as other Occasional Special Church Services.

We need volunteers to assist as we are required to have two people in the nursery to remain open. High schoolers or other adults are encouraged to email Nursery@kmlchuch.org or reach out to Shannon Picha personally if interested in assisting.

## May Sunday School Service Project

In reading of The Road to Emmaus, it reads, "When he was at the table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them." Luke 30.

To help reinforce this lesson, the Sunday School service project will be to gather and donate snacks for the Carolyn Scott Rainbow House at Children's Hospital. Please bring non-perishable food items to the Sunday School office before the end of the Sunday School year on May 21.



## Thank you!

A big thank you to all who donated items for the Nebraska Humane Society! We were able to deliver a truckload of food, toys, beds, and other needed items in April. Your support of all God's creatures was incredible.

## A Day Without Shoes

April 16 - May 7

WELCA is collecting new or used shoes for the Stephen Center (even unusable shoes can be collected for recycling) as their April/May service project. A box is in the narthex for your shoe donations.



## Carol Joy Holling Camp Work Day

Saturday, May 20, 2023

8:00 AM - Lunch

Follow Signs to Check-in Location

Carol Joy Holling Camp



Join us at Carol Joy Holling Camp's annual Work Day! We need your help to get our site ready for the more than 1,500 campers that will be arriving during the summer. Bring friends and family for a day of work in God's creation!

Individuals and groups are welcome, and all skill levels are needed. Please bring clothes that can get dirty, close-toed shoes and gloves. Kids are welcome with parent supervision.

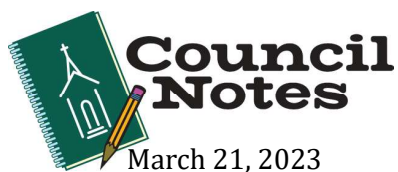
For more info and to sign up, go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/work-day>

## Blindness Prevention Month

May is Blindness Prevention Month. During May we will be again be collecting used eyeglasses for a community project. Thank you in advance for your participation in this outreach event. Please place the glasses in the drop box by the back office door in May. Thank you in advance for your support.



# NEWS & Notes...



Meeting called to order. Previous minutes approved as amended.

Financial Report given by Pastor Griffith and approved by Council.

Staff reports given and approved by Council. Pastor Griffith highlighted the Farnam street car plans.

Committee reports given and approved by Council. Archive working on a windows history series. Call Committee continues their work. Media and Technology working on TV/livestream introduction language. Outreach looking for additional committee members. Worship & Music turned in written report. Stewardship is working on new banners for the fall. Window Celebration Task Force has been gathering estimates.

Board reports given and approved by Council. Endowment meets in April. Medical Clinic turned in written report. KETV turned in written report. KCCOC is in the process of setting up.

Old Business. Gifts & Funds Use and Management Task Force reported that approximately \$450,000 remains from the deFreese proceeds, after paying down window/roof repair loan and related bills. Will have some additional gifts of approximately \$114,000 and \$20,000 to add to the deFreese proceeds.

New Business. Congregational Elections will be held on August 6, 2023 for 3 council seats and KCCOC board.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:10 PM

## NeLCM Golf Scramble

**Friday, June 9**  
**Holmes Golf Course in Lincoln**  
**9:00 AM Start**



Attention golfers and all campus ministry fans!! SAVE the DATE for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry four-person Golf Scramble. There will be golf, food, friends, and fun!!!

Serving on the Omaha Campus Ministry Board, Pastor Shari knows the alue of this ministry shaping leaders for the church now.

Come help celebrate Pastor Sari's birthday as we support this important state-wide ministry.

Register at [nelcm.com/nelcm-golf-scramble-2023/](http://nelcm.com/nelcm-golf-scramble-2023/)

## Affirmation of Faith – April 16, 2023

On Wednesday April 12, a Confirmation Meal for Confirming students and families was hosted by the first year Confirmation families. It was a time to be together and celebrate this time of preparation they have made to affirm their baptismal faith. We are grateful to Tim Backora, Gloria Erickson, and Pastors for sharing their journey of faith as we reflect on our mission to  
Worship † Grow † Serve.

These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and made public affirmation of their baptism.

### Sheyenne Sue Glasgow

Parent is Kyra Peterson

Baptized at Kountze Memorial Church on June 7, 2009  
Baptismal Sponsors are Brenda Losole, Charles Herron Sr., Melinda Mattson, Mickey Hinkle, and Naomi Allen  
Confirmation Verses: Psalm 37:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong. <sup>2</sup>For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away. <sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture. <sup>4</sup>Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart's desire. <sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do. <sup>6</sup>The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun. <sup>7</sup>Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes. <sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil. <sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

### Lillian Katherine Kassal

Parents are Kristin Boe and Jeff Kassal  
Baptized at Kountze Memorial on August 8, 2009  
Baptismal Sponsors are Kara Di Lorenzo and Kelsey Ferry

Confirmation Verse: 1 John 4:18  
There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear: for fear has to do with punishment and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

### Braxton Robert Rees

Parents are Eric and Toby Rees  
Baptized at Kountze Memorial on October 10, 2009  
Baptismal Sponsors are Christian & Breann Owen  
Confirmation Verse: Psalm 121:2

My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.



"Providing an internship is a congregational response to God's Call to be a part of a teaching and learning experience. On internship, ministry candidates both learn by doing and become by being. They learn to do the tasks of ministry by actively doing those tasks. They also learn how to embody the office of ministry to which they are called by being in that role in a supervised capacity. Interns, ministry sites, and supervisors walk together in the experience of formation through both action and reflection." From the Wartburg Seminary Handbook.

Interns from Wartburg are assigned for the coming year to those congregations willing to enter this teaching ministry. The seminary assigns the intern based on what they know of the Intern and the Internship site.

When saying yes to having an Intern, these requirements are asked of the Congregation:

- Payment for the Intern
- Supervising Pastor - time and energy given to student, submit written reports
- Mutual Support Ministry Committee – meets regularly with Intern, submit written reports
- Offer the Intern with meaningful opportunities to explore the ministry of the church and provide ministry within the church

The history of having Vicars at Kountze Memorial Church dates back to 1913 and 1920 when Senior Pastor, Dr. Oliver Baltzly (1911 - 1931) supervised Vicars Ralph R Weissmiller and Frederick J. Weertz who were attending the Midland College Western Theological Seminary at Atchison, Kansas. During Senior Pastor Rev. Walter Traub's tenure (1931 -1959) three Vicars served, Robert R Leshar Jr., Robert O. Hibbeler, and Richard O. Dahlke. Two of the Vicars attended the Midland College Central Theological Seminary in Fremont, Nebraska. Robert Leshar, Jr. attended the Gettysburg Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

From The Omaha World Herald Newspaper - January 6, 1962. Dr. Paul M. deFreese To Be Pastor At Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.



The Rev. Paul M. deFreese will be installed at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. He is accustomed to seeing members of his church enter the ministry. Nine young members of his previous pastorate, First St. Paul's in Hastings, Nebraska, were in seminary training. Three have already been ordained as ministers.

Dr. Paul deFreese said the congregation deserves most of the credit. "Although there's no pat reason, the congregation created a favorable atmosphere. You find men going into the ministry from a church that is alive and doing something, not one that is always bickering," he said. A strong Youth Program is also responsible. Pastor de Freese graduated from Midland College in Fremont, Nebraska and the Central Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Rev. Paul M. deFreese - During his 23 year pastorate at Kountze Memorial he supervised 14 American Vicars and 6 Overseas Exchange Students sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation and Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. Seven of the American Vicars attended the Central Lutheran Theological Seminary in Fremont, Nebraska. The Central Seminary at Midland College closed in 1967. After closure of Central Seminary, the next six attended the Chicago Lutheran Seminary in Chicago, Illinois and ooe attmded the Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary in Pennsylvania. All fourteen Vicars, after another year of study, were ordained as ministers. Since 1985 Kountze has had three more Vicars. H Ashley Hall was supervised by Senior Pastor Rev. Carlos Schneider (1998 - 2012). Dr. Hall studied at the Pacific Lutheran Seminary in Berkeley, California and the Luther Seminary in St Paul, Minnesota. The second Vicar was Susanne R How during the pastorate of Jeffrey Alvestad (2013 - 2015). She was formerly a Marine Sargent and after retiring, she studied at the Luther Lutheran Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Kountze Memorial is currently blessed to have Vicar Gretchen Olson Kopp, who is sharing her Internship with Creighton University. She is completing her path to ordination with the Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. She is being supervised by Associate Pastor Shari Duminy while sharing in ministry duties with Interim Senior Pastor Stephen Griffith and Associate Pastor Ashley Hall.

Four of the Vicars who served Kountze Memorial Church were later called to become Associate Pastors. They are: Rev. Frederick Weertz (1921-1925), Rev. Harold D. Stromer Jr. (1965- 1986), Rev. Douglas L. Johnson (1991 - 1997) and Rev.

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## If You are Hospitalized...



If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please be sure to let the church office know at 402-341-7761 or e-mail info@kmlchurch.org.

## Help Deliver Altar Flowers to the Sick & Homebound



After the 11:00 AM service on Sundays, donated altar flower bouquets are taken to hospitalized members, nursing homes or care centers. This is a great way to brighten someone's day and to grow friendships!

Sign up with SignUp Genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4DA5A628ABF58-altar>), contact the church office at 402-341-7761, or via email at info@kmlchurch.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Your help is appreciated!

## Lutheran Women Omaha Tuesday, May 9, 12:00 Noon Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Program on Holden Village by Pastor Shari Duminy.

Come join us! Bring your own sack lunch plus \$3.00 fee. Dessert provided.

Reservations required. Phone Faith at 402- 734- 4629

## KMLC Book Group

Sunday, June 11 (no meeting in May)

12:15 PM

We will not meet in May as that is Mother's Day. We'll meet back in the Fellowship Lounge on Sunday, June 11.

## Men's Lunch

Thursday, May 18

11:30 AM

Plan to join us for lunch and our program for the day (yet to be determined).

Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 16 so we know how many to plan on. Hope to see you then!



## Cards with Friends

Thursday, May 4

2:00 PM



Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time together playing cards. We'll plan to meet on the first Thursday afternoon of the month. The group is free to decide how often you'll meet. Please let the church office know so we can get it on the calendar. All are welcome. Bring a snack to share.

## House Painting for Low-Income Seniors

Are you a low-income Senior Homeowner or do you know one?

Seniors can get a free fresh coat of exterior paint on their homes on Saturday, August 19.

For more information call Leslie at Project Houseworks at 402-965-9201.



## CPR/First Aid Training

We will be holding a CPR/First Aid training course in June. All Ushers and Sunday School teachers are encouraged to attend the training and the Church will take care of the registration fee which covers the training materials and certificates. All other members of the congregation are invited as well for a small fee of \$32.00. Training will take place in the lower level of Kountze Commons.

- The CPR class will be June 17 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM with a light lunch following in the link.
- If we have more than six people signed up then we will add a CPR class from 12:45 to 3:45 PM.
- The First Aid training will be Saturday June 24 from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM (a light lunch will be served during training). The first aid training is free of charge for those attending the CPR classes on June 17.

Please RSVP to the Church office or you can email jim@kmlchurch.org to reserve your spot.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

## Look What's Coming Up!

### Sunday School Focus



The Sunday School curriculum after Easter has been focusing on The Road to Emmaus. To end the Sunday School year, the children have been, and will continue to study this lesson through a Rotation curriculum. This way of presenting a lesson involves teaching the same lesson through several different classes that include the mission of the scripture, cooking, art, and science. The Sunday School year will conclude on May 21 with a lesson taught through games.

### A Lego Faith Formation Experience

Friday, May 5  
6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Grades 4 - 6



St. Timothy's Lutheran Church  
(510 N 93<sup>rd</sup> St, Omaha.) Cost: \$5 per youth

Youth from across Omaha's Lutheran congregations will gather for fellowship, LEGOs and dinner! Friends are welcome! Register with Pastor Shari by Sunday, April 30, either in person, on sign-up sheet, or email at shari@kmlchurch.org Parents are welcome to stay for fellowship, a devotion, and tacos!



### Youth Forum

Grades 7 - 12  
Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us in the Youth Room for this time of community, learning and serving.



- May 7** Questions and Doubts, Let's talk about them!
- May 14** Senior High School Graduates Celebration in Fellowship Hall
- May 21** Farewell to Vicar Gretchen in Fellowship Hall

### Sunday Evening Gatherings

Grades 8 - 12

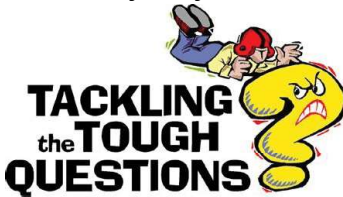
We will meet on Sunday evening on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. Join us for the following times together:

#### Sunday May 7 at 6:30 PM - Downtown Amazing Race

Moving together as a group on foot, we will see how many things we can view on our list. A stop for ice cream ends the journey. RSVP to shari@kmlchurch.org by Thursday, May 4.

#### Sunday, May 21 at 6:30 PM - Exploring Discernment

We'll gather to ponder these questions: What is discernment? How do I make decisions about what I want to do with my life?



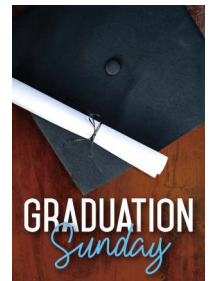
Join with area youth on Sunday, April 21 at 6:30 PM at Kountze Memorial Lutheran for a meal together. The program will include Vicar Gretchen Olson Kopp and Pastor Shari Duminy sharing some principles of discernment that can guide you in making all kinds of decisions. Time to reflect on the decisions you're facing and talking with peers about their decisions and how discernment figures in will close our discussion time.

We will end the night by taking in the 7:30 PM Omaha-area Compline Worship together. Come check it out! RSVP to shari@kmlchurch.org by Thursday, May 18.

### Honoring our High School and Other Graduates

Sunday, May 14

If you are a graduate in this past year, please let us know by Wednesday, May 3. We need to know your name, your family members, where you are graduating from, major, and if applicable, what will be next for you. On May 14 we will uplift the names of all who have celebrated a graduation this past year. Call the church office at 402-341-7761 or email shari@kmlchurch.org, so we can celebrate with you. Cards of congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. A listing of graduates will be listed in the Sunday Bulletin on May 7 and the e-news on Friday, May 12.





## High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, May 14

9:00 or 11:00 AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place from 10:10 to 10:50 AM.

Along with breakfast, cake will be served. High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation no later than April 30. Cards of congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day for the graduates.



of this statement to shari@kmlchurch.org by May 21 so camp can receive payment in time for you to attend and we will take care of the rest. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity, and register today!

## 2023/2024 Confirmation

Grades 6 & 7



- If you have not already spoken with Pastor Shari about Confirmation classes beginning this fall, please call or e-mail for a time to meet with her.
- Please sign up for camp at the Springs from June 18 – 23. If you are not able to make it that week, any other week will work. Submit your invoice to Pastor Shari by May 21 so the camp can receive payment in time for you to attend. (See Camp Week announcement above for registration instructions.)
- Confirmation Orientation is Wednesday, August 30 at 6:00 PM with parents and students attending. Order of St. John training will end our time.

## Vacation Bible School

Welcomes all Superheros!

Held at St. Timothy Lutheran Church (510 N 93<sup>rd</sup> St)

Sunday, June 11 - Wednesday, June 14

5:30 to 8:00 PM



We will be learning about Superheros of the Bible, how God provided for them, and how those heroes then furthered God's mission.

We all know that Superheros are stronger in groups! We will be joining several other Omaha area churches for fun, fellowship, and learning together.

We hope to see all of you there for a SUPER good time. Please register here: <https://kountze.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

## Summer Youth Trip: Journey to DENVER



Thank you to those who sponsored our trip for this summer. We are grateful for your generous spirits. We will be joining with 130 others from around the state to make this trip together to Denver from July 10 – 15. We ask for your prayers as we prepare ourselves to journey with others and for during this week.

## KMLC Camp Week

Carol Joy Holling Camp

June 18 – 23



You can sign up for any week, but those who want to attend a week of camp with others from the church can be directed to this time.

Due to funding set up through a gift for Christian Education, KMLC will pay for youth attending camp this summer.

Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org> and select the REGISTER. There is a three step process of registering on Ultracamp, choosing a session, pay deposit and complete registration. On this third step select, "Pay items in full" and then "Pay by Check/Money Order". Then send a copy

## Carol Joy Holling Camp Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 29, Rain or Shine

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!



Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center  
**Quilt Auction**

H. Ashley Hall Ph.D. (2011 - Present).

To honor Vicar Gretchen's time with Kountze Memorial, at her farewell on May 21, we will be honoring all Interns who have served the congregation by installing a plaque with their names listed and the year they spent with

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. The plaque will be installed in the hallway with photos of Senior Pastors and the plaques of Associate Pastors and Sons and Daughters of the Congregation who have been called into ministry.

# CALENDAR



## May 1 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## May 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

## May 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## May 4 Thursday

9:00 AM Metro East Cluster

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## May 5 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

6:00 PM God. Tacos. Legos

## May 6 Saturday

Homebound Communion

5:00 PM Worship

## May 7 Sunday

Easter 5

Homebound Communion

Receive New Members

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-5)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

6:30 PM Youth Scavenger Race

## May 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## May 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Lutheran

Women of Omaha

## May 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese

Manor

6:00 PM Executive Committee

## May 11 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

12:00 PM Omaha Youth Network

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## May 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## May 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

## May 14 Sunday

Easter 6

Mother's Day

Graduation Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-5)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

## May 15 Monday

Good News Deadline

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

## May 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

## May 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

## May 18 Thursday

Ascension of Our Lord

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

6:30 PM Ascension Day Liturgy



Festive Eucharist  
with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
Everyone is welcome

## May 19 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal

5:00 PM Pantry

## May 20 Saturday

8:00 AM CJH Work Day

3:00 PM Murphy & Gifford Wedding

5:00 PM Worship

6:00 PM Vicar Gretchen Farewell

Potluck

## May 21 Sunday

Easter 7

Farewell to Vicar Gretchen

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-5)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

6:30 PM Youth Exp. Discernment

7:30 PM Compliance Service

## May 22 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## May 23 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

12:30 PM Circle 3

## May 24 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

## May 25 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## May 26 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## May 27 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

## May 28 Sunday

Day of Pentecost

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Adult Forum

## May 29 Monday

Memorial Day (Observed)

OFFICE CLOSED

## May 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

## May 31 Wednesday

12:00 PM Summer Confirmation

12:15 PM Worship





1. Edward Bass, Harold Gilliam, Carole Meilahn, Susan Peterson, Mark Phillips
2. Anita Morse, Shannon Picha, David Tollefson
3. Ethan Eggen, Linda Johnson, Karrie Lyles, Beth Naylor, Allyson White
4. Linda Knutson, Lacey Bodnar, Lindsey Bodnar
5. Mark Jones
6. Aubri Meldrum, Caden Vermule, Maxwell Szymczak, Carol Carlson
7. Diane Davis, Schyler Hopkins, Heidi LeClair, Helen Lowderman, Debra Putnam, Lynn Sherlund, Bette McCoy
8. Shirley Bonneau, Dean Herzberg, Jennifer Kropp, Dick Sieling, Chris Miley, Giselle Loucks, Autumn Loucks
9. Charlie Bressman, Richard Portrey, Julie Classen, Trever Osborne
10. Rahn Johnson, Lucas Pestel
11. Natalie Backora, Sandra Kucera, Jennifer McCarthy
12. Dane Kucera, Jane Setterburg, Carol Storer
13. Elaine Adams, Hal Gillaspie, Pam Johnson, Elizabeth Luczynski, Fred Wachal
14. Noah Curtis
15. Don Berney, Shannon Fonda, Scott Fonda, Kay Jones, Isabella Kuehn, Lisa Montag
16. Jean Bowman, Jane Lynam, Brooke Reinert, Spencer Link
17. Tracy Fletcher, Nicholas Kanning, Dirk Petersen
18. Linda Ackerson, Frank Ferguson, Kate Jones, Elizabeth Larkowski, Courtney Senn, Soren Hepburn
19. Georgia LeClair, Melissa Titus, Steve O'Connor
20. Krista Edwards
21. Liz Moldenhauer, Peter Smock, Lyn Ziegenbein
22. Susan Clark, Melody Diggins
23. Nicholas Barrett, Samuel Comfort, Lorna Swingen, Karen Wolf
24. Jackson Barrett, Steven Thomas, Brittany Edwards, Justin Edwards
25. David Swift, Susie Henry
26. Idonna Meyer, Denise Lewis
27. H. Michael Hyland, Ashley Ingram, Emma Mirch, Jeremy Sarich
28. Laura Hansen, Stephanie Martens, Owen Thornton, Dean Vancaster
29. Joy Borchman, Brandt John, Jackson Martis, Jeffrey Martis
30. Lawrence Battaglia, Missy Hardersen, Brooks Hinrichs, Greta Rohrberg, Michaela Ruma, Amanda Sneckenberg, Noah Storer
31. Ellie Carlson, Marie Dixon, Kelly Rudie, Dan Shelby, Morgan Stouffer

## Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 3/1/2023.....	\$1,989,527.26
Principal Payment, 4/1/2023 .....	\$7,556.86
Interest Payment, 4/1/2023.....	\$5,914.07
Balance, 4/1/2023 .....	\$1,981,970.40

## Finances: March, 2023

	<i>March</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
<b>Total General Fund</b>		
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 67,156.33</b>	<b>\$ 252,027.90</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Mission Support:	\$ -	\$ -
Christian Education:	\$ 2,120.65	\$ 3,301.02
Facility Costs:	\$ 30,445.86	\$ 63,926.54
Staff Compensation:	\$ 54,063.22	\$ 163,352.27
Worship & Music:	\$ 4,535.54	\$ 9,221.40
Parish Life:	\$ 2,140.99	\$ 5,486.74
Youth:	\$ 115.00	\$ 349.16
Office & Administration:	<u>\$ 8,164.06</u>	<u>\$ 21,349.61</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 101,585.32</b>	<b>\$ 266,986.74</b>

## Food Pantry Report

(1/1/2023 - 3/31/2023)

### Income:

Grants	\$ 2,775.00
Donations:	\$ 7,605.32
Memorials	<u>\$ 4,966.33</u>
	\$ 15,346.65

### Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$ 2,994.81
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### Regular Expenses

Aldi	\$ -
Costco	\$ 57.00
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$ -
Hy-Vee	\$ -
Dollar Tree	\$ 34.82
Family Fare	\$ 6,170.86
Food Bank	\$ -
Walmart	\$ 1,006.92
Sam's Club	\$ 925.64
Other	<u>\$ 145.43</u>
	\$ 11,235.48

**Balance** **\$ 4,111.17**

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Permit 238

Stephen Griffith, Transition Sr. Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor  
Gretchen Olson Kopp, Vicar

## Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 PM  
Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM  
Wednesday at 12:15 PM

The 9:00 AM Sunday service is  
televised live on Cox channel 13  
and live streamed on our website at  
<https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/> (you may watch the live-stream any time)

A bulletin is available on our  
website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/bulletin-announcements/>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Sending of Vicar Gretchen

The time of Internship is ending for Vicar Gretchen, hence for us as well. May 28 will be her last day with us as we worship together. Due to this being Memorial Day weekend, we will be having our Sending Blessing on Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21. The first two weeks of May, Vicar Gretchen will be gone on the weekends due to her daughter, graduating from University and the following weekend, she will be receiving her Masters of Divinity from Wartburg Theological Seminary.

- On Saturday, May 20, after the 5:00 PM Worship Service, we'll have a Farewell Potluck for Vicar Gretchen. Please bring a dish to share.
- On Sunday, May 21 during Fellowship, a time of gratefulness and thanksgiving, will be offered as we think back on the last nine months together, birthing this last requirement of the Seminary process before her graduation, approval, and ordination.

If you are so moved gifts and cards will be gathered, speeches will be shared, and much love expressed for the time we have journeyed together. In addition to breakfast, delicious treats will abound.

Gretchen has been creative, caring, empowering, and faithful as she has learned, but also generously shared the faith and love of Jesus. There are many ways to help in celebrating this dear one, called to journey with us for a short but impactful time. Let Pastor Shari know how you can assist in this celebration.

